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THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

The thirtieth annual meeting of the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA was held under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, Pa., December 26, 27, 28, 1912, in accordance with the following invitation:

University of Pennsylvania

To All to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

This is to certify that

Prof. Felix E. Schelling, Ph. D., Litt. D., LL. D.,

Prof. MARION D. LEARNED, Ph. D., L. H. D.,

Prof. ARTHUR H. QUINN, Ph. D.,

Prof. James P. W. Crawford, Ph. D.,

have been appointed by the University of Pennsylvania to represent it at the Convention of the Modern Language Association.

The University also wishes to inform the Association, through its representatives, that it takes pleasure in inviting it to hold its meeting next year in Philadelphia.

EDGAR F. SMITH,

Attest:

Provost.

EDWARD ROBINS, Secretary.

[L. S.]

PHILADELPHIA, PA., December 27, 1911.

All sessions wer held in Houston Hall, Professor Charles Hall Grandgent, President of the Association, in the chair.

FIRST SESSION, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

The Association met at 2.45 p. m.

The Secretary of the Association, Professor W. G. Howard, presented as his report volume XXVII of the *Publications* of the Association, including the *Proceedings* of the last annual meeting; and the report was unanimusly accepted.

The Tresurer of the Association, Professor Karl Young, presented the following report:

A. CURRENT RECEITS AND EXPENDITURES

RECEITS

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Balance on hand, December 23, 1911,
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From Members, for 1909,
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Vol. XXVII, No. 1,	\$	618					
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	-		\$2	2,209	97		

For Reprinting Publications, Vol.	
XVII, No. 4, \$ 90 00	
For Printing Program, 30th Annual	
Meeting, and mailing, 106 25	
To Secretary, Central Division, for	
Salary	
To Secretary, Central Division, for	
Printing Program, 18th Annual	
Meeting, and mailing, 77 36	
For Expenses, 7 63	
To Committee on Reproduction of	
Erly Texts,	
To Committee on Teaching of English	
Composition, 80 67	
For Purchase of Publications,	
Vols. III-XX, \$ 30 00	
" VIII-XXIV, 16 00	
	
Exchange, 2 02	
Transferd to Permanent Fund, . 100 00	
	\$3,715 17
Balance on hand, December 20, 1912,	634 15
	\$4,349 32
B. INVESTED FUNDS	
Bright Fund (Eutaw Savings Bank),	
Principal, December 23, 1911, . \$1,668 45	
Interest, April 1, 1912, 58 28	
Transferd to Current Funds,	
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von Jagemann Fund (Cambridge Savings Bank),	
Principal, December 23, 1911, . \$1,112 60	
Interest, January 25, 1912, . 22 24	
" July 25, 1912, 22 68	
1,157 52	
	\$2,825 97

The President of the Association appointed the following committees:

- (1) To audit the Tresurer's report: Professors John Morris, A. K. Hardy, and L. P. Shanks.
- (2) To nominate officers: Professors Henry Wood, B. L. Bowen, and J. W. Cunliffe.

The reading of papers was then begun.

1. "The Cause of the 'Great Vowel Shift.'" By Professor Clarence Griffin Child, of the University of Pennsylvania.

[This paper, after a review of the theories of Luick, Jespersen, and Western, with respect to the relativ cronology of the "Great Vowel Shift" in English, attempted to find its explanation of the shift in the theory of Wrede concerning NHG difthongs (alredy applied to this problem by Sarrazin) fortified by recent determinations of the caracteristic lengths of English vowels.—Twenty-five minutes.]

2. "English Femmes Savantes at the End of the Seventeenth Century." By Professor Alfred H. Upham, of Bryn Mawr College.

[An Essay in Defence of the Female Sex, publisht anonimusly in 1696, and frequently attributed to Mary Astell, is usually regarded as a comparatively isolated document in its field. This paper considerd its relation to the mass of contemporaneus tracts concernd with woman's place in scolarship and literature, and representing every sort of ideal, from strict scolarly seclusion to the superficiality of English femmes savantes. The evidence, beyond making Mrs. Astell's connection with the Defence extremely unlikely, indicates the probability of French influence in the entire activity.—Twenty minutes.]

3. "Palatal-Affection in Anglo-Saxon Reviewd." By Professor John Morris, of the University of Georgia.

[Sievers, A. S. Grammar, 75.—Modern instances of sc > sh before guttural vowel not reconcilable with the theory of diffhongization,

but confirm Kluge's view that the e is inserted simply in order to denote palatal pronunciation of sc.—E(i) after c, g.—Attempt to reconcile O. E. fenomena.—Kluge's remark, Gesch. d. engl. Spr., 65, 3.—Fifteen minutes.]

4. "Another word about German Zähllieder." By Mr. Emil A. C. Keppler, of the College of the City of New York.

[At the meeting of 1910, the Volkslied, Der Bauer (Meister) schickt den Jokkel aus, etc., was traced back to the fifteenth-century Jewish Easter Song of the Kid, as to origin and purpose. The present paper attempted to follow the history of the Zähllied beyond the form of the Jokkellied and to instance its occurrence in the German Volkslied in partial, defectiv, or derivativ forms. In these it has for the most part returnd to its original use as a religius song. Next comes the use of fragments of the Zähllied in the varius Nachtwächterlieder, where the religius tuch is stil retaind. Finally, the use of fragments or of the partial formula of the Zähllied in Kunstpoesie is found in writers like Brentano. His Ammenuhr is a good example.—Twenty minutes.]

5. "The Ausgabe letzter Hand of Wieland's Works." By Professor William Kurrelmeyer, of the Johns Hopkins University.

[The only collected edition of Wieland issued during his life-time was publisht by G. J. Göschen in Leipzig from 1794 to 1811. It was issued in four sizes: octavo, small octavo, large octavo, and quarto. Of the octavo edition at least three different printings can be shown to exist. The spurius reprints cannot outwardly be distinguisht from the genuin edition, and their incorrect and often amusing readings hav therefore descended in part to the modern editions.—Twenty minutes.]

At the request of the President, Professor M. D. Learned took the chair during the reading of this paper.

At eight o'clock in the evening of Thursday, December 26, the members and gests of the Association assembled in Houston Hall to hear an address of welcome by the Vice-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Jo-

siah H. Penniman, and an address on "The Dark Ages" by Professor Charles Hall Grandgent, President of the Association.

The addresses were followd by an informal reception.

After the reception there was a gathering of men at the Franklin Inn Club.

SECOND SESSION, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

The session began at 10 a.m.

For the Trustees of the Permanent Fund, Professor William Allan Neilson, *Managing Trustee*, reported holdings of \$6,410 duly secured to the Association; and on motion of Professor L. F. Mott, this report was unanimusly accepted.

Professor John Morris reporting for the Auditing Committee that the Tresurer's accounts wer found correct, the Tresurer's report was unanimusly accepted.

Professor John William Cunliffe presented the following:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF EARLY TEXTS.

The Committee wishes to report progress. The facsimile of the Caedmon Ms., to be published by the Oxford University Press for the British Academy, is to be issued in 1913 to commemorate the tercentenary of the Authorized Version of the Bible. Members of the Modern Language Association may subscribe before publication at the reduced price of five guineas.

The Early English Text Society will issue on February 4th the first number of a small and select series of Early English Facsimiles to bear the name of the late F. J. Furnivall. The first volume ("Cotton Nero Ax"), containing *Pearl, Cleanness, Patience*, and *Sir Gawayne*, is now ready for distribution. About 50 American subscribers for this have been obtained, and the Director of the Early English Text Society suggests that if this number could be increased to 100, the name of the Modern Language Association of America should

be officially associated with this commemoration of Dr. Furnivall, who did so much to promote good feeling between English and American scholars, and who was keenly interested in the facsimile project. Members of the M. L. A. may subscribe for the first issue of the series at the reduced price of two pounds five shillings, and for the portfolio containing *Pearl* alone at the reduced price of one guinea.

The Committee wishes to draw the attention of individual members to these facsimiles, but does not recommend any official action on the part of the Association. Subscriptions should be sent to Professor Israel Gollancz, King's College, London, England.

J. W. CUNLIFFE, Chairman.

The foregoing report was unanimusly accepted.

The reading of papers was then resumed.

- 6. "Longfellow and his Relations to the Scandinavian Literatures." By Dr. Amandus Johnson, of the University of Pennsylvania.
- [I. Longfellow's erly interest in Scandinavian languages and literatures: (a) first contact; the odes of Gray, and magazine articles; (b) Scandinavian artists and authors met in Rome. II. Longfellow's visit to Scandinavia and his study of Finnish, Swedish, Danish, and Icelandic. III. Lectures at Harvard and translations of Scandinavian poetry. IV. Traces of Scandinavian influence in Longfellow's poetry.—Fifteen minutes.]
- 7. "Analysis and Definition of Allegory." By Professor Reed Smith, of the University of South Carolina.
- [I. On the formal side: Allegory examind (a) as a figure of speech, (b) as a form of literature. It is a method rather than a tipe. Allegory distinguisht from Allegorizing, and from Symbolism. II. On the esthetic side: Principles of effectivness: 1. Saying the unsayable; 2. Symbolism, (a) its economy and suggestivness, (b) its mistic basis; 3. Sensuous embodiment of Allegory, and related problems. III: Definition of Allegory.—Twenty minutes.]
- 8. "The Allegory of Dante's Vita Nuova." By Professor Jefferson B. Fletcher, of Columbia University.

[Dante's intention is 1) to 'assemble' [assemprare] the significant facts [sentenzia] of his "new life"; 2) to 'set forth' [assemprare] the 'significance' [sentenzia, cf. Conv. I, ii, 124] of that narrativ as allegory. His allegorical method is controlled by a doctrin of progressiv insight into truth developt by Aquinas after St. Paul's declaration: Nunc videmus per speculum in ænigmate: tunc autem facie ad faciem. The final object of love is direct vision of God: Dante is led to this by two stages of indirect or "allegorical" vision,-1) of God reflected in the beauty of Beatrice on erth as "in speculo per simile occultum in anigmate," 2) of God reflected in the splendor of Beatrice in heven as "in speculo per simile clarum et apertum." In direct vision God is seen 1) immediately, as "pure light" [Par. xxxiii, 90], 2) mediately, (i. e., reflected in the mind of the beholder), as the center of a circle of light [Par. xxviii, 16-39; xxxiii, 11-132]. In indirect or "allegorical" vision, this likeness [similitudo] of God, Divine Love, is seen as reflected 1) enigmatically in the likeness of the love evoked by the human Beatrice to the center of a circle [V. N. chap. xii], 2) clearly and openly, in the likeness of the hevenly Beatrice as the center of a circle of splendor [V. N. chap. xlii]. Again, as the direct likeness of God in the "three circles of three colors and one dimension" intends his triune nature as Father, Son, and Holy Gost, so this nature is reflected in the likeness of that likeness [similitudo similitudinis], the hevenly Beatrice, as union in "blessedness" of the theological or "intellectual" virtues, faith, hope, charity, in the colors of which—white, green, red—she appears to Dante [Purg. xxx, 30-33]; and by further refraction the divine nature appears in the human Beatrice as union in "nobleness" of the cardinal or "moral" virtues-prudence, temperance, fortitude, justis. Thus hevenly Beatrice's salute is 'salvation' or contemplativ 'blessedness' [beatitudo], and is denied while Dante follows her 'false likeness' in the 'donna pietosa' or 'activ life'. Human Beatrice's salute is the 'saving power' of reason, 'nobleness', and is denied while Dante follows her 'false likenesses' [simulacra] in the piaceri, 'plesures of sense,' schermi della veritade. The critical stages of the implied spiritual ascent ar indicated by "allegorical visions", of which the first portends enigmatically the whole ascent to the goal reveald in the last; the fourth and central vision, of Beatrice's deth, marks the transition from human "nobleness" to hevenly "blessedness" in her; the second and third, and fifth and sixth, reveal respectivly, transitions from ignoble to noble love, from domination of sense to domination of reason, and from domination of activ reason to domination of speculativ reason.—Thirty minutes.]

This paper was discust by Professor C. H. Grandgent.

9. "Boccaccio and the Plan of the Canterbury Tales." By Professor John S. P. Tatlock, of the University of Michigan.

[An attempt has been made recently to prove, by four specific resemblances in plan, that Chaucer modeld the Canterbury Tales on the Decameron. But practically the same points ar found in no less than four other works; two of these wer certainly known to Chaucer, and there is evidence that a third may hav been.—Twenty minutes.]

10. "Personal Relationships in Medieval France." By Professor William Averill Stowell, of Amherst College.

[Previus writers on the subject haverd in designating as compagnonage the personal relation between seigneur and follower in Medieval France. This relationship was amistié. Compagnonage was the bond between the followers of a seigneur only. Discussion of the nature of amistié and compagnonage, with a criticism of the erroneus conclusions of previus writers.—Fifteen minutes.]

At one o'clock members and gests of the Association wer entertaind at luncheon in Houston Hall by the University of Pennsylvania.

At two o'clock there was a meeting of the Concordance Society.

THIRD SESSION, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

The session began at 2.45 p. m.

The reading of papers was continued.

11. "A Note on the Epigrams of John Weever." By Professor Josiah H. Penniman, of the University of Pennsylvania.

[The Epigrams of the Elizabethan period contain many interesting allusions to contemporary writers. This is particularly true of the Epigrams of John Weever, which hav been inaccessible to most persons because the copy in the Bodleian is the only known original copy. In 1911, this collection was reprinted for the first time by Mr. R. B.

McKerrow. A use to which Epigrams wer put is indicated in the scene in Dekker's Satiromastix in which Epigrams on Tucca ar circulated in manuscript.—Fifteen minutes.]

12. "The Study of Recent Literature." By Professor John William Cunliffe, of Columbia University.

[Some objections considerd: (1) It is too easy (for the student); (2) Courses in it ar too popular; (3) It is too difficult (for the teacher). Reasons in favor: (1) It wil giv reality and vitality to advanst study and literary reserch; (3) The intellectual changes of the last fifty years ar as important as the material changes, and shud be intelligently explaind to mature students.—Twenty minutes.]

13. "Spenser's Arraignment of the Anabaptists." By Professor Frederick Morgan Padelford, of the University of Washington.

[This paper advanst the theory that the attack on communism, embodied in the episode of Sir Artegall and the Giant in the Faerie Queene (v, ii, 29-54) is an arrainment of the Anabaptists. The Elizabethans invariably identified communists with Anabaptists; the contentions of the Giant ar precisely those attributed to the Anabaptists; and the arguments of Artegall precisely those employd against them, The acute political feeling against the sect was demonstrated.—Twenty minutes.]

14. "Spenser and Sidney." By Dr. Percy W. Long, of Harvard University.

[In view of many and recent idealizations of the intercourse of Spenser and Sidney, it seemd worth while to inquire just what is implied in the acquaintance which Spenser stiled "some use of familiarity." An examination of the existing data seemd to show that their relations hav been not only exaggerated but fundamentally misunderstood.—Fifteen minutes.]

15. "The Date of Rousseau's Discours sur l'Economie Politique." By Professor Christian Gauss, of Princeton University.

[The date of this discourse has never been satisfactorily establisht. St. Marc-Girardin held that it fel between the first discourse and

the Discours sur l'Inégalité (1750-53). This view, then generally accepted, stil persists. Dreyfus-Brisac in 1896 set up the query whether the Economie Politique might not be later than the Inégalité, but was forst to leav it an open question. An investigation of the method of the Encyclopédie, and of the circumstances surrounding the publication of Rousseau's article in it, coupled with a significant fact discoverd by Valette, prove, the writer believd, that this discourse cud not possibly hav been written before Rousseau's journey to Geneva in the summer of 1754. This being true, it wud tend strongly to show that Rousseau's relationship to the Encyclopedists and his intellectual intimacy with Diderot must hav been closer and hav lasted longer than many modern students like Texte and Ducros ar willing to admit.—Twenty minutes.]

This paper was discust by Professors Adolphe Cohn and Albert Schinz.

At the close of this session there was a meeting of the American Dialect Society.

At eight o'clock in the evening of Friday, December 27, the ladies of the Association wer the gests of the Faculty Tea Club of the University of Pennsylvania in Houston Hall.

At nine o'clock, the gentlemen in attendance wer the gests of the University at a "Smoker" in the Hotel Normandie.

FOURTH SESSION, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

The session began at 9.55 a.m.

For the Committee on Grammatical Nomenclature, Professor Wm. Gardner Hale reported progress. The report was accepted, and the Association unanimusly

Voted: that the Committee on Grammatical Nomenclature be authorized, as soon as material is redy, to publish a provisional report, said report to be laid before the Association for final action at its meeting next following thereafter.

For the Nominating Committee, Professor J. W. Cunliffe presented the following nominations:

President: Alexander R. Hohlfeld, University of Wisconsin.

First Vice-President: Hermann Collitz, Johns Hopkins University.

Second Vice-President: Ashley H. Thorndike, Columbia University.

Third Vice-President: Kenneth McKenzie, Yale University.

On motion of Professor L. F. Mott, the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the gentlemen nominated, and they wer declared unanimusly elected to their several offices.

Professor Alastair St. Clair Mackenzie spoke fervently of the arrangements made for the entertainment of the Association in Philadelphia, and on motion of the Secretary, appreciation of hospitality was unanimusly exprest by a rising vote of thanks to the hosts.

The reading of papers was then resumed.

16. "A Note on Some Recent Applications of Demi-Science to Shakespeare." By Professor Felix E. Schelling, of the University of Pennsylvania.

[Shakespeare, for generations a corpus vile of criticism in small science. What is the essential function of the teacher of literature? Is a rigorus test of the semblances of art by the actualities of present science justifiable? Can we accept the inference that the psycology of the literature of former times is false because incapable of bearing such a test? Certain criminals of Shakespeare thus tested. Wherein the quest of art differs from the quest of science. The immesurability of the one by the standards of the other. The conventionality of art; the necessity of its acceptance. The true

recall to "Nature" is the function of the artist, not the business of the scientist.—Fifteen minutes.]

This paper was discust by Professor W. A. Neilson.

17. "King Arthur in Ireland." By Professor Tom Peete Cross, of the University of North Carolina.

[Arthur figures in nativ Irish literature as wel as in Irish redactions of foren romances. An effort was made to show that the peculiarities of these documents, as wel as of Irish redactions of classical and other stories, throw light on the methods of the Celtic story-teller and, perhaps, on the question of what constitutes a peculiarly Celtic feature.—Twenty minutes.]

18. "The Otherworld in Norse Saga." By Professor Arthur F. J. Remy, of Columbia University.

[The Otherworld conception in Old Norse literature shows two distinct forms, represented by Hel, Utgar's and Jotunheim on the one hand, and by Glaesisvellir and obainsakr on the other. The heroes who figure in the miths relating to the former tipe ar gods, Offin, Hermof, Thor; those who achiev the quest in the latter tipe ar men. A critical examination of the material relating to the Otherworld in Saxo's Danish History, the Edda, and Icelandic sagas makes it plain that the former tipe, tho not devoid of foren traits, is old and of Germanic origin; the latter tipe, however, is comparativly recent and arose under Celtic influence. Obainsakr is not the Christian paradise, but in its aspect of "jord lifandi manna" corresponds to the Old Irish Tir na n-Og, "the land of youth," and more generally to Tir Tairngiri or the Terra Repromissionis of St. Brendan. The name Glaesisvellir, "fields of splendor," finds its closest parallel in Magh Argatonél, "silver cloud plain."-Fifteen minutes.]

19. "The Leitmotiv in German Literature." By Professor Edward Stockton Meyer, of Western Reserve University.

[The word Leitmotiv, usually ascribed to Richard Wagner, is not found in his writings, but was coind by Hans von Wolzogen and has been widely used ever since. The idea is, of course, not at all new. It is everywhere apparent in epic poetry, and often in the novel.

Goethe, who calls it Verzahnung, uses it in the Wahlverwandt-schaften; Schiller, in the Geisterseher; Otto Ludwig, in Zwischen Himmel und Erde. But Fontane, who uses it most, says he got the idea from Wagner. Striking use of it in Ibsen. Constant use in Sudermann's Es War and Das Hohe Lied. Use and abuse of the idea best exemplified by Fontane.—Fifteen minutes.]

This paper was discust by Dr. Rudolf Tombo, Sr.

- 20. "Tristan and Isolt." By Dr. Gertrude Schoepperle, of New York University.
- [1. The estoire: the French original of the Béroul-Eilhart and the Thomas versions of Tristan. Criticism of M. Bédier's and Professor Golther's reconstructions of the poème primitif. 2. The date of the estoire. 3. The narrativ technique of the estoire. 4. Celtic tradition in the estoire.—Ten minutes.]
- 21. "The Debate of Wine and Water." By Professor James Holly Hanford, of Simmons College.

[Debates between Wine and Water ar extant in Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Modern Hebrew, and other European languages from the twelfth to the nineteenth centuries. The dispute constitutes the theme of a seventeenth-century English play, and versions ar stil current in folk-songs in Germany, France, and Spain. At the beginning of the tradition stand two Goliardic poems, from one of which most of the subsequent versions ar directly or indirectly derived.—Twenty-five minutes.]

22. "Publication before Printing." By Professor Robert K. Root, of Princeton University.

[An attempt to determin on the basis of contemporary evidence certain tipical conditions under which an author of the later Middle Ages gave out his work for general circulation. The evidence, drawn from English, French, and Italian sources of the fourteenth and erly fifteenth centuries, showd that the medieval author regarded the formal publication of his work as a matter of great consequence, that he took precautions to insure the correctness of his text, that subsequent to publication he authorized changes and revisions in his work, that he had to gard against the danger of unauthorized 'editions.' The conclusions reacht ar of interest to the general

student of literary history, and hav an important bearing on problems of textual criticism.—Twenty minutes.]

23. "Negro Plantation Songs." By Professor John Avery Lomax, of the University of Texas.

[The songs of the negro given in this paper ar those that either hav sprung directly out of his work or ar expressions of his non-religius emotions. They ar the negro secular songs, or "reels," as he himself wud say. Thru them some insight into the mind and caracter of the uneducated negro workmen may be obtaind.—Forty-five minutes.]

At 1.30 p. m. the Association adjurnd.

As on the preceding day, members and gests wer entertaind at luncheon in Houston Hall by the University of Pennsylvania.

PAPERS RED BY TITLE

The following papers, presented to the Association, wer red by title only:

24. "The Question of Form in Browning." By Mr. Harry T. Baker, Literary Editor of The Country Gentleman.

[That Browning paid considerable attention to form is suggested by his frequent use of the monolog, the clearest of dramatic forms. Caponsacchi's caracter is more accurately reveald than Hamlet's is. Browning was uneven, however, in workmanship, as is convincingly shown in The Ring and the Book. He cud always write simple poems: witness An Incident of the French Camp (1842), Up at a Villa (1855), Hervé Riel (1867). There must, then, hav been adequate reasons for his not writing more such poems. His purposes were radically different from Tennyson's. Browning's caracteristics ar strikingly Elizabethan. He is a "moral explorer." Such a poet rarely devotes himself to the utmost niceties of form.]

25. "The Authorship of King Henry VI, Part I." By Mr. C. F. Tucker Brooke, of Yale University.

[The extant play seems to be based on a revision by Shakespeare for Lord Strange's Men in 1592, of an erlier work written by Marlowe for another company—probably the Earl of Pembroke's. Shake-